

Message Text

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CORRESPONDENTS REPORT BY DAVID WILLIAMS DAR ES SALAAM
AFRICAN MINISTERS MEET

INTRO: ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MEETINGS IN THE HISTORY OF
INDEPENDENT AFRICAN WAS OPENING IN THE TANZANIAN CAPITAL, DAR ES
SALAAM MONDAY. VOA CORRESPONDENT DAVID WILLIAMS IS IN THE
TANZANIAN CAPITAL AND FILED THE FOLLOWING STORY.

TEXT: ABOUT SIXTY DELEGATIONS ARE ATTENDING THIS NINTH EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY INCLUDING MINISTERS
FROM THE FORTY TWO NATION ORGANIZATION, LIBERATION GROUPS AND
OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS. THE MEETING WAS BEING OFFICIALLY OPENED
MONDAY AFTERNOON BY TANZANIAN PRESIDENT JULIUS NYERERE AT THE
DIAMOND JUBILEE HALL IN DAR ES SALAAM. THE MEETING WAS CALLED
FOR THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING SOUTH AFRICA'S MOVES IN
RECENT MONTHS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH BLACK AFRICAN STATES. THE
PROPOSAL WAS MADE IN FEBRUARY AT THE LAST REGULAR OAU MINISTERIAL
SESSION BECAUSE OF CONSIDERABLE CONTROVERSY AMONG THE AFRICAN
NATIONS ON THE PROPRIETY OF CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. IT NOW
APPERAS THAT THIS HAS BEEN ELARGED TO CONSIDER THE ENTIRE
SOUTHERN AFRICA QUESTION WHICH WOULD INCLUDE RHODESIA, NAMIBIA,
AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

WHILE THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE OAU CONFERENCE WAS TAKING PLACE
MONDAY AFTERNOON, SEVERAL BEHIND THE SCENES MEETINGS BETWEEN
DELEGATIONS HAVE LAREADY TAKEN PLACE, MOSTLY AT DAR ES SALAAM'S
KILIMANJARO HOTEL WHERE MANY DELEGATION HEADS ARE RESIDING. ON
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SUNDAY, PRESIDENT NYERERE RETURNED FROM A TRIPARTITE MEETING IN KANANGA, ZAIRE WITH THE PRESIDENTS OF ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE. ON THE AIRCRAFT WITH THE TANZANINA PRESIDENT WERE THE LEADERS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RHODESIA, BISHOP ABEL MUZOREWA, JOSHUA NKOMO, AND NDABANINGI SITHOLE WHO WAS RELEASED FROM DETENTION IN RDODESIA TO ATTEND THE DAR ES SALAAM CONFERENCE. THE A.N.C. SAYS IT WILL ISSUE A MAJOR POLICY STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN RHODESIA DUEING THE OAU SESSION WHICH WILL ALSO DEAL WITH THE ASSASSINATION IN ZAMBIA LAST MONTH OF THE NATIONALIST LEADER, HERBERT CHITEPO. BISHOP MUZOREWA TOLD THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER, THE DAILY NEWS, THAT ALL THREE NATIONALIST LEADERS AGREED THAT THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT HAD DONE THE RIGHT THIS IN THE AFTERMATH OF MISTER CHITEPO'S DEATH. THESE INCLUDED THE ARREST OF MANY NATIONALIST LEADERS FOR QUESTIONING AND THE SETTING UP OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATETHE KILLING. ALL THREE NATIONALIST LEADERS DECLINE TO SPECULATE ON WHO WAS BEHIND THE MURDER. ITEM

NOTE: WILL BEEPER UPDATE ABOUT FIFTEEN THIRTY GMT ON OPENING BUT TIME IS QUESTIONABLE. USE THIS C.R. IN CASE LATE FOR FIRST AFRICA SHOWS ITEM MABBATT.

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